

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1 to read as follows:

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1. (Once Amended) An electric power steering apparatus including an electric motor for applying a steering assist torque, corresponding to a steering torque, to a steering system, said electric motor comprising:
  - an annular outer stator having circumferentially arranged stator windings of nine or a multiple of nine poles; and
  - an inner rotor positioned within said outer stator and consisting of permanent magnets of eight poles;
  - said stator windings being connected such that they can be driven by electric power of three phases.

Please add claim 6 as follows:

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6. (New) An electric power steering apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said inner rotor has a motor shaft on which said permanent magnets of eight poles are circumferentially arranged, said motor shaft having a solid form.